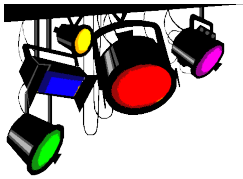




**DECEMBER, 2017-JANUARY, 2018**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



After the rocky start what with hurricane Irma and all, our second show, *Later Life*, was fairly successful coming in at 82% and I expect that our Christmas show will do as well if not better. With that in mind, I decided to take a look at

the previous four years to see what our success rate has been. Over that period, we sold a total of 39,662 tickets out of a possible 43,700. That comes out to a whopping 90.8% average sales rate over the four year period. I'd say that we are a very successful theater.

Thinking about this has made me think about what we want for the future. We have been talking about a 200 seat theater with all of the bells and whistles that go with it. To manage a theater of that size, we will have to hire a full time Artistic/Managing Director, and they don't come cheap. We will have to hire more staff and make them full time as well. People such as a Tech Director, Wardrobe/Costume manager, Business Manager, etc. The list goes on and on. This will mean a much larger operating budget and to support that we will need to raise ticket prices and have a full time fundraiser as well. The question is, can Englewood support such a theater?

The only reason we have been talking about 200 seats is so we can have a bar. But, how much does a bar bring in and will it make up for the added expenses we incur for such a large facility. My conclusions to those questions is, NO! It won't make up for the much larger budget.

My next question was, what do we really want in a new theater? Well, from all my discussions with actors, directors, and especially our patrons, I have come to this conclusion. We need a bigger stage with more modern technical equipment and more comfortable seating. This will enable us to mount many plays that we have been unable to produce up till now and make our patrons much more comfortable as well. So let's go for that instead of a bar. We have been doing just fine without one up to now, so why not continue that way.

I propose we revise our plans to a 100 to 110 seat theater with a wider and higher stage and with more modern tech equip-

ment. This will require a smaller footprint than what we have been talking about and cost less to build and maintain. We can continue to operate as we have been with maybe added staff, but not at the cost that a large theater would require.

On a more serious note, we have received resignations from three of our present board members: Charlie Tyler, Michele Strauss, and Kim Fox, all citing personal reasons for the action. It was with reluctance, but an understanding of the circumstances that the board accepted the resignations. This leaves three vacancies on our board. So we are looking for some dedicated individuals who have business acumen, an interest in theater, and willing to put in the time to continue the excellent work we have been doing. If you are interested, contact me or any board member.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob La Salle

## *Become Part of the Lemon Bay Playhouse Family*

*Make a donation of \$25 or more and become a member  
and supporter of the arts at Lemon Bay Playhouse.*

*- Experience the Benefits -*

**Pick up a brochure at the playhouse or go to  
[www.lemonbayplayhouse.com/membership.html](http://www.lemonbayplayhouse.com/membership.html)  
for more details**

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## **IMPORTANT MEETING DATES**

**BOARD MEETINGS  
In the Green Room**

**December 18, 2017 at 6:00pm**

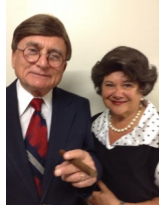
**January 15, 2018 at 6:00pm**

**Changes in meeting dates or times will be posted  
on the website and sent by email**

# 2018 Readers Theater

## 9th Annual Shorts Aloud Festival

Once again, Lemon Bay Playhouse's Readers Theater will be presenting their annual Shorts Aloud Festival. This will be its ninth year, and this popular event is always well attended. A unique form of live theatre, the actors always give the audience a laugh-filled performance with twists and surprises. Show times are February 17 at 7:30 pm and Feb. 18 at 2:00 pm and 7:30pm. Mark your calendars and buy your tickets soon at the special price of \$12.00.



## 2018 Showcase Productions

### MARCY DOWNEY

#### "Sh Boom! Those Fabulous 50's"

*Saturday, Jan. 6, 2018; 7:30 pm*

#### Sh Boom! Those Fabulous 50's



**Starring Marcy Downey**

In 2013 Marcy Downey debuted her new cabaret show at Lemon Bay Playhouse and has appeared to a sold out audience since that time. This will be her fifth appearance on our stage.

With a lifetime of show business experience, and an impressive list of stage appearances including New York, Los Angeles, Lake Tahoe, and Florida, Marcy is the ultimate entertainer. Her

singing voice has attracted critical acclaim from coast to coast, and her stage personality "lights up every room in which she appears".

In addition to her singing, Marcy adds that rare comic element that makes for a memorable evening of smiles, laughter and satisfaction.

This season, Marcy will take you on a musical journey through the decade that brought us The Everly Brothers, Brenda Lee, Elvis, The Righteous Brothers, Patti Page, The Platters, and so many more. Marcy sings the greatest hits of the 50's and tells hilarious tales of those happy days, and portrays comedy characters that will have you laughing all the way home! Go to [www.marcydowney.com](http://www.marcydowney.com) for a video demo of her performances.

**Elvis ■ Everly Brothers ■ Brenda Lee ■ The 50's**

### JOHN TUFF AND FRIENDS

#### "No 'Cryin' In Your Beer Old-time Country Music"

*Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018; 7:30 pm*



Snow, Ernest Tubb, George Jones, Johnny Horton, and more.

These country musicians started out almost ten years ago as a duo performing for a fundraiser at the Englewood United Methodist Church (EUMC). Since that time, it has grown into a group of five gifted musicians singing all over Southwest Florida in a variety of venues. The emphasis is on old-time country music, the kind many of us grew up with on the family radio. This show will lift your spirits and bring you back to the old days. To a time when folks valued good music, good times, and pride in this great country of ours. There will be no "crying in your beer" country songs to bring you down. If you appreciate this style of traditional country music, come and join us for this tribute to the country hits of the past, featuring many of country fans' favorite stars and their music.

**Melodic ■ Nostalgic ■ Marvelous ■ Entertainment**

### TOM AND SANDY DOYLE

#### "Les Paul and Mary Ford Tribute"

*Saturday, Apr. 14, 2018; 7:30 pm*



When Tom and Sandy perform their Les Paul & Mary Ford Tribute Show it's like the best time travel ever! Their audience will be transported back many decades... back to a time when things were more simple, when music had meaning, and the artists we truly talented... none more so than Mr. Les Paul and his lovely wife, Mary Ford.

Tom and Sandy are not just merely doing an impression of these great entertainers of the past... Tom has a long personal history with THE great and famous guitar Icon. Tom and Les worked together, side by side for over 45 years... on guitars, music, sound engineering, Les' personal performances and so much more... Oh the stories he has! Check out the website [www.lespaulshow.com](http://www.lespaulshow.com)

**Self-harmony ■ Stories ■ Layered Sound**



## OUR HALLOWEEN TREAT GIVERS

BY JIM SCIARELLO

On Halloween, seven witches appeared at Lemon Bay Playhouse to welcome the Halloween trick or treaters that stopped by the theater looking for goodies. LBP purchased 22 bags of candy and many non-candy treats to give the children that stopped by to during the 22nd Annual Halloween Safewalk on Dearborn Street. If you visited the playhouse that evening you may have seen a teal pumpkin. The Food & Allergy Organization started the Teal Pumpkin Project® as a worldwide movement to create a safer, happier Halloween for kids and to raise awareness of food allergies and promote inclusion of all trick-or-treaters throughout the Halloween season. They suggest that you paint a pumpkin teal colored to alert parents and kids that you are giving away non-food related items. LBP gives a big thank you to our volunteer witches who helped provide a safe trick or treat event for the children.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT READERS THEATER

BY KATHY AMELIA

Readers Theater is preparing for the holiday season and on our wish list this year is an increase in outreach clients. So far we have two bookings for December and two in the New Year 2018. Our monthly meeting on December 3 always has a presentation made by Jack Rabito performing "A Christmas Memory" by Truman Capote. Candy canes, mistletoe and great cookies are also evident at this gathering.

We will get further information to you on our upcoming Ninth Annual Shorts Aloud Festival which will be on February 17 and 18, 2018. If you are still up north and will not be joining us until the New Year, may your holidays be meaningful and the New Year bring you health and happiness.

See you on the aisle.

Kathy

## SAVE THE DATES

BY JIM SCIARELLO



**Volunteer Party**  
Sunday, February 25, 2018  
4:30pm  
Charlotte County Tringali  
Recreation Center

**Annual Meeting**  
Sunday, March 4, 2018  
2:00pm  
Lemon Bay Playhouse

## FUNDRAISER PERFORMANCE FOR ENGLEWOOD HELPING HAND, INC. - A SUCCESS STORY -

BY JIM SCIARELLO

Lemon Bay Playhouse sponsored a fundraiser for Englewood Helping Hands, Inc. at the playhouse. The playhouse volunteers and actors provided an additional performance of the show *Later Life* written by A. R. Gurney and Directed by Jenni Elliott, on Tuesday, October 24. All proceeds from this additional performance went to the support Englewood Helping Hand, Inc., our local food pantry. A total of \$2,386.30 was obtained from ticket sales for this benefit show. An additional \$159.00 was obtained from donations at the performance. A drop basket was also on hand at the theater for donation of non-perishable food products.

Many thanks to all of our volunteers for helping out on this special fundraising performance. We also thank the community for supporting this activity for the Englewood Helping Hand, Inc. in the way of ticket purchases and a "sold out" performance. We greatly appreciate your support and help to "fill the house" and the "drop basket". Your attendance helped put the "fun" in "fundraiser".



Bob La Salle, President of the Lemon Bay Playhouse Board of Trustees (right) presents a check for \$2,386.30 to the Englewood Helping Hand, Inc. representatives (left to right) Lori-Nan Mihaley (President of the EHH Board of Directors), Helen Stephan, and Tom Stephan.

**COMING  
SOON!**

BY PAUL HYATT

## ***CRIMES OF THE HEART***

**By Beth Henley  
Directed by Ron Bupp**



For the fourth production of its 31st Season, the Lemon Bay Playhouse will present "Crimes of the Heart", written by Beth Henley. This comedy, directed by Ron Bupp, will open on January 17 and run through February 11, 2018.

The three McGrath sisters are back together in their hometown of Hazelhurst, Mississippi for the first time in a decade. Lenny, the eldest, never left Hazelhurst. Meg, the middle sister, left home to pursue stardom as a singer in Los Angeles, but has only found happiness at the bottom of a bottle. And Babe, the youngest, has just been arrested for shooting her abusive husband. Under the scorching heat of the Mississippi sun, past resentments bubble to the surface and each sister must come to terms with the consequences of her own "crimes of the heart."

## ***FLEMMING***

**By Sam Bobrick  
Directed by Bob La Salle**



For our fifth production of our 31st season we offer "Flemming" written by Sam Bobrick. This show will be directed by Bob LaSalle and run from March 7 through April 1, 2018. This comedy/mystery unfolds as follows: Bored by his

privileged, but mundane life, Henry Flemming sells his lucrative brokerage firm to become a detective. On his very first case, and to the horror of his wife, Karen, and his two crazy neighbors, Suzy and Stan, the Flemming living room begins to fill up with dead bodies. Karen is further annoyed when one of them turns out to be her father. Even though Henry keeps showing up at home every day more disheveled and beaten up, he couldn't be happier. Henry is convinced he's found his life's work and Westport, Connecticut is safer for it.

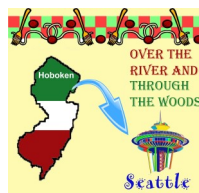
Information and tickets are available online at [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://www.lemonbayplayhouse.com) or by visiting or calling the Box Office at (941) 475-6756 between 10:00am and 2:00pm weekdays and one hour prior to curtain time. Reserved seat tickets are \$20 each. Student tickets are available at \$14 each. Group sales tickets are available at a reduced cost. For information please call the Business Manager at (941) 474-9610.

**NOW  
PLAYING!**

BY PAUL HYATT

## ***OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS***

**By Joe DiPietro  
Directed by Peter Ivanov**



For the third production of its 31st Season, the Lemon Bay Playhouse presents "Over the River and Through the Woods", written by Joe DiPietro. Directed by Peter Ivanov it will open on November 29 and run through December 17, 2017.

This comedy/drama keeps audiences captured by the adventure of Nick, a single, Italian-American guy from New Jersey. His parents retired and moved to Florida. That doesn't mean his family isn't still in Jersey. In fact, he sees both sets of his grandparents every Sunday for dinner. This is routine, until he has to tell them that he's been offered a dream job in Seattle that would take him away from his grandparents. The news doesn't sit so well, and the grandparents do their level best to keep Nick around. That includes bringing to dinner the lovely and single Caitlin O'Hare as bait.

Information and tickets are available online at [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://www.lemonbayplayhouse.com) or by visiting or calling the Box Office at (941) 475-6756 between 10:00am and 2:00pm weekdays and one hour prior to curtain time. Reserved seat tickets are \$20 each. Student tickets are available at \$14 each. Group sales tickets are available at a reduced cost. For information please call the Business Manager at (941) 474-9610.



*Photo by John Bass Photography*

The cast selected for our third show of our 31<sup>st</sup> season, "Over the River and Through the Woods", pose for a picture prior to show time. Seated in the front row (left to right) are Jesse Rosenfeld (Nick), Judy Tilley (Aida), Gloria Bandy (Emma), and Jack Rabito (Nunzio). Standing in the back row (left to right) are Peter Ivanov (Director), Jim Parise (Frank), Kayla Lowe (Caitlin), and Dottie Warner (Stage Manager).



## ANNOUNCING THE 2018-2019 SEASON LINEUP

BY JIM SCIARELLO



The Play Reading Committee (PRC) spent most of the summer reading 19 scripts for possible production for Lemon Bay Playhouse's 2018-2019 season. Of those 19 plays, seven were eliminated and 12 scripts were submitted to the Board of Trustees for their consideration. The Board then met in Executive Session to select

the seven plays that will make up our 32nd season.

The plays chosen, in order of production, are:

*Last of the Red Hot Lovers* - a comedy by Neil Simon

*Deathtrap* - a mystery/thriller by Ira Levin

*Dear Santa* - a comedy by Norm Foster

*Men are Dogs* - a comedy by Joe Simonelli

*Looking* - a comedy by Norm Foster

*Old Love* - a comedy by Norm Foster

*'Till Beth Do Us Part* - a comedy by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, and Jamie Wooton

The Board of trustees gives a great big thanks to the members of the PRC for taking the time to perform this task and for selecting the plays which looks like a fantastic 2018-2019 lineup for our theatre. The PRC members from summer 2017 were: Jeff Cima, Louise Goodwin, Ric Goodwin, Murray Hudson, Bob La Salle, and Charlie Tyler. Again, thank you for all their reading and hard work. The PRC is seeking new members to read prospective plays next summer? If interested, please contact the PRC by sending an email to them at [ric.and.louise@gmail.com](mailto:ric.and.louise@gmail.com).

## ADULT ACTING CLASS FOR BEGINNERS

BY RIC GOODWIN



Ric Goodwin, LBP's Artistic Production Manager, will be offering a Beginning Adult Acting Class with preference given to students with little or no acting experience but are serious in their desire to try out their skills on stage.

The class will be offered Tuesdays from 10 am until noon beginning on Jan. 9 and ending with a class showcase on Feb. 27th. Cost of the class will be \$75.00 payable by cash or check (made out to Lemon Bay Playhouse) on or before the first day of class. The class size will be limited to 16 participants. Interested students need to pre-register by emailing the instructor at [ric.and.louise@gmail.com](mailto:ric.and.louise@gmail.com). Also, please use this email to address any questions about the class.

Ric is Professor Emeritus of Theatre from Ashland University in Ohio. In addition to a 30 plus year teaching career, Ric has over 100 acting and directing credits in regional, community and educational theatre. He is also a charter member of the Ohio Educational Theatre Association's Hall of Fame.

## GIFT CERTIFICATES



Need a Christmas gift? Looking for a great gift for that special person? Need an item for your silent auction or fundraiser? Want a gift to reward exceptional employees? Can't find a present for that special occasion? Lemon Bay Playhouse has the perfect solution for all of those needs. A Gift Certificate! You may purchase a gift certificate any time during the season and it will be good for any play during that season. For more information, or to purchase a gift certificate, call the LBP Business Manager at (941) 474-9610.

## FLEX PASS TICKETS ON SALE A GOOD THING JUST GOT BETTER



Since Season Ticket sales have ended there is still a way to save money on the purchase of tickets for this season. If you love live theater then our Flex Subscription (Four Pack) Pass is perfect for you. This is a great way to purchase reduced price tickets if you do not want to attend all shows, are not here for the whole season, or want to give tickets as gifts. The cost for four shows is \$72 per person. That is a 10% savings - \$2 off per ticket. Each Flex Subscription Pass is valid for one ticket to a performance of your choice to any four of our plays you choose.

Flex Pass Subscription tickets may be purchased by visiting the box office. Flex Pass tickets may also be purchased online by visiting our website. Flex Pass Subscription sales will continue as long as four productions are available for purchase.

This season, LBP is again providing you with seven great plays for your enjoyment. If you did not receive the 2017-2018 season brochure for our 31st season plays, Showcase Productions, and Shorts Aloud Festival, be sure to pick one up in the lobby or download it from our website. at: [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://www.lemonbayplayhouse.com). Individual tickets for all performances and events may be purchased at \$20 each by phone, online, or at the box office. Purchase your tickets for this exciting season as soon as possible for the best available seats. -JPS



96 W. Dearborn Street  
Englewood, FL 34223

## ***Celebrating our 31<sup>st</sup> Season!*** **2017-2018**

<i>ANNOYANCE</i> by Sam Bobrick	September 6 - September 24, 2017
<i>LATER LIFE</i> by A. R. Gurney	October 18 - November 5, 2017
<i>OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS</i> by Joe DiPietro	November 29 - December 17, 2017
<i>CRIMES OF THE HEART</i> by Beth Henley	January 17 - February 11, 2018
<i>FLEMMING</i> by Sam Bobrick	March 7 - April 1, 2018
<i>THE TIN WOMAN</i> by Sean Grennan	April 25 - May 13, 2018
<i>SYLVIA</i> by A. R. Gurney	June 6 - June 24, 2018

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LBP Box Office is open Monday-Friday, 10:00am to 2:00pm. Phone 941-475-6756

**Visit our website at: [www.lemonbayplayhouse.com](http://www.lemonbayplayhouse.com) (or scan the QR code)**



"It is the mission of Lemon Bay Playhouse to enrich Englewood and surrounding communities through theatrical productions, volunteer opportunities, education and training in the performing arts, and to provide a venue for other cultural activities."